GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3370
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2016
Illegal Trade of Weapons
Giluwa Shri Laxman;Nete Shri Ashok Mahadeorao;Patle Smt. Kamla Devi;Singh Shri Uday Pratap;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal trade and manufacturing of weapons and explosives have been reported in the country;

(b) if so, the details of illegal weapons seized/confiscated and persons arrested for involvement in the said activities and the action taken against the guilty by the Central authorities and State Police during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has received complaints with regard to use of unlicensed/illegal/banned arms by criminals in several parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(e) the details of directives issued by the Government to the States and the Police Departments in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam, some instances of illegal manufacturing and trade of weapons and explosives have been reported from different parts of the country.
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National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) has started collecting data on seizures on arms since 2014. As per data collected from State/UT, details on State/UT-wise cases of seizures reported under the Arms Act and arms & ammunitions seized during 2014-2015 is enclosed as Annexure-I. State/UT-wise cases reported, cases charge sheeted, cases convicted, persons arrested, persons charge sheeted and persons convicted under the Arms Act during 2013-2015 is enclosed as Annexure-II. State/UT-wise cases reported and seizures made under the Explosives and Explosive Substances Act during 2015 is enclosed as Annexure-III.

(c): Yes, Madam, some instances of use of unlicensed/ illegal/ banned arms by criminals have been reported from different parts of the country.

(d) & (e): As per the seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, "Police and Public order" are State subjects. The compliance of various provisions of the Arms Act and Explosive Substance Act, 1908 and Explosive Act, 1884 is the responsibility of all concerned in particularly the State Governments/UTs. The Arms Act, 1959 has elaborate regulatory provisions, under Section 19 to 25 of the Act, to curb illegal trade in firearms. Under the Act, in addition to the State Police Authorities,
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personnel of Central Armed Police Forces have been empowered to search and seize arms and ammunition, illegally held/ traded by any person. From time to time, concerned agencies take necessary action to check violation of these Acts. The Union Government has issued advisories to States/UTs from time to time to take strict action against the offenders.

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